

Health of animals, \$570,000.

Mr. HAZEN: This is a large item and the Estimates for the present year are based on the expenditure of the past year. The Estimates are made up in this way: Salaries and fees, \$200,000; travelling expenses, \$140,000; general expenses, \$15,000; printing and stationery, \$5,000; dipping, \$10,000. Then there is a large item paid each year for compensation for animals that are killed by authority of the veterinary inspectors as follows: Glanders, \$35,000; hog cholera, \$100,000; dourine, \$35,000; tuberculosis, \$30,000. The amount that was spent under this item in 1915-16 was \$348,287. The work of this division is limited to the control and reduction of contagious and infectious diseases governed by the Animals Contagious Diseases Act. Fortunately, the only diseases which have necessitated official action in this country are glanders, dourine, anthrax, hog cholera, mange, rabies, and tuberculosis. Any new work which this division has been called upon to perform has consisted of changes in the system of combatting diseases due to modern discoveries. Two-thirds of the cost is for animals that have been destroyed.

Mr. OLIVER: This shows an increase of \$30,000; what is the reason of that?

Mr. HAZEN: I am told that the increase has to do with work in connection with tuberculosis in cattle.

Mr. OLIVER: If I caught correctly the figures that the minister read, it would seem that this amount is very much larger than the expenditure last year.

Mr. HAZEN: It is \$21,000 larger. The amount actually spent in 1914-15 was \$549,288.77. The amount of this item is \$570,000. That would be an increase of about \$20,000.

Mr. CARVELL: My hon. friend from Huntingdon (Mr. Robb) and my hon. friend from North Oxford (Mr. Nesbitt) could not very well be here to-night, they are very much interested in this matter and I think the minister might let it stand.

Item stands.

Dominion cattle quarantine buildings—repairs, renewals, etc., \$15,000.

Mr. HAZEN: This is simply for repairs to quarantine stations all over the country, of which there are a great many.

Department of Agriculture — Publication Branch, \$20,000.

Mr. TURRIFF: Why the increase?

[Mr. Turriff.]

Mr. HAZEN: The amount spent last year was \$14,145, which came dangerously near the limit. This branch was organized in 1910. The increase is accounted for by the increased issue of the Agricultural Gazette, of which a great many more copies are now being requested. Expenses under this head also include filing cabinets, index cards, stationery, etc.

International Institute of Agriculture—to assist in maintenance thereof and to provide for representation thereat, \$20,000.

Mr. HAZEN: It was explained to the House some years ago that practically all the nations of the world had agreed to the establishment at Rome of an agricultural institution, a sort of clearing house for the different nations of the world in agricultural matters. Every country connected with this is assessed \$4,560 a year. Then \$6,000 is allowed for the bulletin which is issued from time to time. Those are the principal items.

Mr. TURRIFF: Does the minister think it is worth the money?

Mr. HAZEN: Of course I have not studied this question, and cannot say. We entered into this in good faith, and I think we are bound to continue in it.

To enforce the Seed Act, to test seeds for farmers and seed merchants, to encourage the production and use of superior seeds, and to encourage the production of farm and garden crops, \$150,000.

Mr. J. J. HUGHES: It is well known that there is a great shortage in the crop of potatoes in Canada, particularly in Prince Edward Island. In some cases the farmers will have difficulty in getting seed. Under these circumstances, would it not be well for the Government to consider the advisability of suspending the duty upon potatoes? Potatoes are very dear at the present time, and will be dearer before the new potatoes are ready for use.

Mr. HAZEN: Does a duty of ten cents a bushel make much difference?

Mr. HUGHES: That is the duty on our potatoes going into the United States. We have to pay twenty-five cents a bushel duty. It will be difficult to obtain potatoes for any purpose in this country before the new potatoes are ready. The new potatoes in the United States will be ready for use a month or two earlier than ours, and I think the duty should be removed so that the people of this country can get potatoes from the United States. There are no pota-